

LEGISLATIVE AND STATE BUDGET PRIORITIES OF THE COMMISSION, 1994



CALIFORNIA
POSTSECONDARY
EDUCATION
COMMISSION

Summary

This is the seventh annual statement of the Commission's priorities to guide its staff in working with the Governor and the Legislature in the development of legislation and the State budget affecting higher education

This year, the Commission's primary priority "will be to collaborate with the postsecondary education community in emphasizing the importance of providing adequate funding to maintain existing enrollments" (p 5)

More specifically, the Commission directs its staff to "work closely with representatives from postsecondary education, the Governor's Office, the Legislature, and student organizations to *develop strategies for accommodating future demand for education beyond high school* -- including the development of explicit plans for fully utilizing the capacity of public colleges and universities, independent institutions, and proprietary degree-granting and vocational institutions operating within the State -- *and for obtaining the resources needed to implement such strategies*" (ibid)

To achieve these results and accomplish other urgent tasks, the Commission identifies five specific priorities during the 1994 legislative session "(1) reconsidering the State's long-term student fee policy, (2) establishing long-term student financial aid policy, (3) providing adequate resources for desired enrollment levels, (4) monitoring institutional performance and student achievement, and (5) implementing recent changes to the federal government's financial aid programs " It discusses each of these specific priorities on pp 5-11

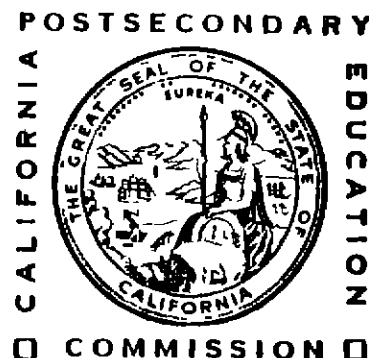
Finally, the Commission directs its staff to advise it about how it can encourage the work of the State's new Constitution Revision Commission in examining possible reforms in the State's existing tax and expenditure structures to permit maintenance of the principles outlined in the State's Master Plan for Higher Education -- student access to, quality in, and choice among California's colleges and universities (p 11)

The Commission adopted this report at its meeting on February 7, 1994, on recommendation of its Governmental Relations Committee. Additional copies of the report may be obtained from the Commission at 1303 J Street, Suite 500, Sacramento, California 95814-2938

LEGISLATIVE AND STATE BUDGET PRIORITIES OF THE COMMISSION, 1994

*A Report of the California
Postsecondary Education Commission*

CALIFORNIA POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION
1303 J Street ♦ Suite 500 ♦ Sacramento, California 95814-2938





**COMMISSION REPORT 94-1
PUBLISHED JANUARY 1994**

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Introduction

EACH YEAR, the California Postsecondary Education Commission adopts a set of priorities to guide its staff activities in working with the Governor and the Legislature in the development of the budget for the subsequent year. It also provides an opportunity for the Commission to concisely summarize the critical issues facing postsecondary education and set priorities on legislation needed to address these issues. These priorities are guided both by the Commission's workplan for the coming year and the priorities established by the Governor and the Legislature as they consider postsecondary education issues during the legislative session.

California's continuing recession -- even while the rest of the nation is showing signs of recovery -- means that for the fourth consecutive year, the Governor and Legislature will most likely face a multi-billion dollar budget deficit that will constrain the level of State support for postsecondary education. Because no substantial progress has been made in resolving the State's structural impediments to generating revenue -- or making discretionary decisions on its expenditures to meet growing public needs -- postsecondary education remains particularly vulnerable to another year of insufficient General Fund support to serve those students currently enrolled in California's colleges and universities, let alone those who will be seeking access to these institutions in 1994-95 and beyond.

California has not faced fiscal challenges of today's magnitude since the 1930s, and its postsecondary education community has never had to contend with such a disproportionate cut in its budget. For these reasons, the Commission begins this statement with an analysis of the State's likely budget prospects for 1994 and then turns to its priorities for legislation during the 1994 session.

Budgetary prospects for the State in 1994

After nearly three years of recession, California's economy is not demonstrating strong indicators of recovery. Most statistical indicators show that the State's economy has stopped its downward spiral, and some indicators show improvement. Yet unemployment in the State remains high -- having risen to 9.8 percent of the workforce this past October, three percentage points above the national average, and nearly two percentage points above any of the other ten major industrial states.

During 1992, nearly one-fourth of California's loss of 163,000 jobs occurred in its defense-related industries. This job loss is expected to continue into the foreseeable future, as national defense forces are down-sized, contracts for new weapons systems are delayed or cancelled, and military bases are closed. As a result, most forecasters believe that the State's economy will remain weak through the end of this fiscal year and the beginning of the next.

Given an estimated \$5 billion budget deficit, a weakened economy, and severe budget cuts made last year, prospects for the 1994-95 State budget are as bad as they have ever been for any budget, if not worse. It is very doubtful that new revenue will be available to fund necessary programs.

The governing boards of the three public systems of higher education -- the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, the Trustees of the California State University, and the Regents of the University of California -- as well as those of the California Maritime Academy and Hastings College of the Law have submitted budget proposals to the Governor requesting funding augmentations for 1994-95 in order to maintain their respective missions in higher education.

- ♦ The Board of Governors has requested a 28.7 percent increase (\$316 million) in the community colleges' budget, including a 2.43 percent increase in cost-of-living allowances (COLAs) and 1.89 percent growth funding.
- ♦ The Trustees have asked for a 14.4 percent increase (\$214 million) over the State University's existing appropriation of \$1.5 billion.
- ♦ The Regents have asked for a 7.9 percent increase (\$141.9 million) over the University's existing level of State General Fund support of \$1.7 billion.
- ♦ The Board of Governors of the California Maritime Academy has requested a 15.1 percent increase of \$968,000.
- ♦ The Board of Directors of Hastings College of the Law has asked for a 9.2 percent increase of \$1 million.
- ♦ And the California Student Aid Commission seeks 25.4 percent more in local assistance funding -- \$51.6 million -- for five purposes: (1) increasing the tuition and fee award levels for new Cal Grant A recipients, (2) increasing by 10 percent the Cal Grant A and B award levels for students attending both public and independent institutions, (3) increasing by 6 percent the Cal Grant B subsistence award levels, (4) providing tuition and fee awards to new Cal Grant B recipients, and (5) adding 1,100 new Cal Grant A awards and 6,250 new Cal Grant B awards -- thereby adjusting the number of new grants funded in each program to 18,500.

It is unlikely that the State will grant all of these requests not simply because of continued limits on State revenues but because of two other reasons.

Incorrect assumptions underlying the 1993-94 budget: The final agreement on the 1993-94 budget was predicated on a two-year plan to balance anticipated revenues with projected expenditures and pay off the cumulated deficit carried over from 1992-93 and 1993-94. That agreement may now be compromised because at least two of the assumptions underlying the 1993-94 budget have not been realized. One was that economic recovery would begin in the last quarter of 1993 and that revenue estimates would be met -- but the most recent economic update of the Department of Finance indicates that the fourth quarter recovery is not occurring.

The second was that decisions concerning the deficit included in the 1992-93 and 1993-94 budgets would be delayed until 1995-96 -- but a court case challenging the provisions of the budget related to the loan repayment of Proposition 98 funding has been won, meaning that appropriations made under Proposition 98 may have to be recalculated and the availability of General Fund support for K-12 schools and the community colleges may be affected

Competition for funds from other State services: Among increased demands for State services are these

- ♦ School enrollments are growing annually at an average of 7 percent,
- ♦ The population of the State's prison system has tripled between 1985 and 1993 to over 120,000 inmates,
- ♦ The number of Medi-Cal recipients who receive their health care from the publicly subsidized health system has expanded five-fold, with 5.4 million or almost one out of every five Californians now receiving Medi-Cal assistance, and
- ♦ The number of persons receiving assistance under the Aid for Dependent Families with Children (AFDC) program continues to increase at 4.4 percent annually, despite reductions in welfare expenditures proposed by the Governor in his past two budgets

**Challenges
for higher
education leaders,
State officials,
and the
Commission**

This situation provides unique challenges for the postsecondary education community, the Governor, the Legislature, and the Commission

- ♦ For the leaders of higher education, considering alternative ways to meet the educational needs of a growing and diverse pool of potential students with limited resources offers a pressing rationale to critically examining evidence of the effectiveness of traditional institutional priorities and resource allocation -- and consideration of alternative priorities -- for better serving diverse students is imperative
- ♦ For the Governor and Legislature, the tension between limited public resources and expanding social and educational needs will likely continue to be the focus of the policy debate during the 1994 legislative session
- ♦ For the Commission, its primary task in the budget development and legislative process is to provide legislators and the Governor with timely, useful advice for making the difficult policy decisions that will be required of them in 1994. The legislative and budget priorities outlined in the following section will help guide Commission staff in this effort during the coming year

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Legislative and Budget Priorities

CALIFORNIA'S budget realities should not be the sole criteria driving the legislative agenda of the Governor or the Legislature, nor should they govern the Commission's legislative priorities. These priorities should provide a policy framework for determining the goals that the State should pursue through its various policy apparatuses. Nonetheless, budgetary constraints, such as those described on the previous pages, restrict the scope of goals that can be actively entertained by policy makers, and budget priorities often serve as a proxy for explicit policy decisions about the allocation of scarce public resources.

Accordingly, the Commission acknowledges that budgetary concerns will have a direct impact on the policy items that will capture the attention of the Legislature and the Governor during the 1994 legislative session. Thus the Commission's primary focus in this session will be to *collaborate with the postsecondary education community in emphasizing the importance of providing adequate funding to maintain existing enrollments*.

In addition, Commission staff will work closely with representatives from postsecondary education, the Governor's Office, the Legislature, and student organizations to *develop strategies for accommodating future demand for education beyond high school* -- including the development of explicit plans for fully utilizing the capacity of public colleges and universities, independent institutions, and proprietary degree-granting and vocational institutions operating within the State -- *and for obtaining the resources needed to implement such strategies*.

To achieve these results and accomplish other urgent tasks, the Commission will have five specific priorities during the 1994 legislative session: (1) reconsidering the State's long-term student fee policy, (2) establishing long-term student financial aid policy, (3) providing adequate resources for desired enrollment levels; (4) monitoring institutional performance and student achievement, and (5) implementing recent changes to the federal government's financial aid programs.

1. Reconsidering the State's long-term student fee policy

Historically, California has maintained a commitment to a "tuition-free," low-cost system of public education, with tuition defined as any monies collected to pay the direct costs of instruction. This low-cost or low-fee policy has provided what has been believed to be one of the best vehicles available to assure access to postsecondary education. This commitment was embodied in the 1960 Master Plan for Higher Education, it was affirmed in 1984 through SB 195 (Maddy, Chapter 1523, Statutes of 1985), which established California's current long-term fee policy calling for fee increases to be "gradual, moderate, and predictable" and limiting annual increases to no more than 10 percent, and it was most recently reaffirmed in 1989.

by the Legislature's Joint Committee for Review of the Master Plan for California Higher Education, even though that Committee agreed that students in all three public segments should bear a portion of the total cost of their education

For two of the past three years, the State has not followed its prescribed student fee policy for the California State University, where fees have increased by 84.6 percent over three years -- rising from \$780 in 1990-91 to \$1,440 in 1993-94. The University of California has not adhered to this policy for any of the past three years: its statewide fees having increased by 112.7 percent, rising from \$1,624 in 1990-91 to \$3,454 in 1993-94. In the California Community Colleges, students were charged \$6 per unit up to a maximum of \$60 per semester for 1991-92, but last January, the Legislature and Governor raised these fees for 1993-94 to \$13 per unit, with no limit on the maximum amount charged students

Besides these increases in mandatory systemwide fees, since 1992-93 California's public colleges and universities have been directed to charge "duplicate degree" tuition to students who enroll in courses leading to a degree that they already possess. During this past session, the Legislature exempted various categories of students from this fee, but at the community colleges, unexempted students who already have a bachelor's or higher degree are charged \$50 per unit, and at California's two public universities, unexempted students must pay tuition that is not less than their marginal per-student cost of instruction and not more than the level of nonresident tuition

Because of the State's fiscal crisis that has led to such ad hoc increases and practices, in 1991 the Legislature directed the Commission to review student fee and financial aid policy in California and to discuss "future state policy on who should pay what share of the costs of higher education" as well as consider "the relative advantages or disadvantages of raising student tuition as a source of General Fund revenue as contrasted with maintaining reduced funding for the current Master Plan missions." In response, the Commission has recommended that the California State University and the University of California be allowed to establish student fees at a level that does not exceed 30 percent and 40 percent, respectively, of their average cost of instruction as jointly determined by the systems, the Commission, and the Legislature. Further, the Commission has recommended that future increases be limited to the lesser of (1) actual increases in the jointly determined average cost of instruction or (2) the average of the increase in per-capita household income and the increase in the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI)

Currently, the Commission is developing recommendations on community college fee policy, involving the share of responsibility that should appropriately be borne by the State, local government, and students and their families in paying the costs of instruction

During the 1994 legislative session, Commission staff will continue working with representatives of the higher education community, the Legislature, students, and the Governor's office to implement the Commission's recommendations for a revised and more effective long-term student fee policy

**2. Establishing
a long-term
student financial
aid policy**

Over the past three years, California has moved further and further away from both the spirit and intent of its commitment, adopted in 1990 through Section 66021.2 of the Education Code, to promote access, choice, and student success through the implementation of its Cal Grant financial aid programs

Consistent with the State's historic commitment to provide educational opportunity by ensuring both student access to and selection of an institution of higher education for students with financial need, the long-term Cal Grant policy shall be as follows

- (a) The number of first-year awards shall be equal to at least one-quarter of the number of graduating high school seniors,
- (b) The minimum award for students attending the University of California and the California State University shall, at a minimum, equal the mandatory systemwide and campus-based fees in each of those segments; and
- (c) The maximum award for students attending independent institutions shall be set and maintained at the estimated average General Fund cost of educating a student at the public baccalaureate-granting institutions of higher education

The California Student Aid Commission has noted the gulf between that policy and actual practice by reporting that in the 1992-93 fiscal year

- 1 Only about one in five students eligible for a Cal Grant award actually received one,
- 2 The size of the maximum award for students attending the State's independent colleges and universities was about \$2,400 less than called for in State statute, and -- as a result -- the percentage of Cal Grant recipients attending these independent institutions has decreased in recent years, and
- 3 Augmentations to Cal Grant funding have failed to keep pace with the increases in mandatory systemwide fees that public institutions charge

Although the 1993-94 budget for the Cal Grants programs contained sufficient funds to offset 1993-94 systemwide fee increases at public institutions, this augmentation was insufficient to expand the number of grants available or increase the size of grants for students at independent institutions to their required amount. In addition, the federal Higher Education Act of 1992 reduced the size of the maximum Pell grant for low-income students from \$2,400 to \$2,300 and substantially expanded the pool of "needy" students to include more students who heretofore were ineligible for Pell grants -- thereby reducing the amount of grant assistance available to students from low-income families at the very time that the cost of college attendance has been rising

As part of its work on student financial aid policy, the Commission will continue to emphasize the importance of linking long-term financial aid policy with long-

term student fee policies California's historic commitment to providing access to all who aspire to and can benefit from education beyond high school will be credible only to the extent that eligible students from the poorest families perceive college to be affordable Therefore, *Commission staff will work with representatives of the postsecondary education community, students, the Legislature and the Governor's office to enact a long-term financial aid policy that recognizes the relationship between student charges and student financial aid in assuring affordability for low-income students and that places adequate financial assistance to such students among the highest priorities in the 1994-95 higher education budget decisions*

**3. Providing
adequate
State resources
for desired
enrollment levels**

The preservation of access to public colleges and universities for eligible and motivated students requires more than an agreed-upon long-term student fee and financial aid policy It requires State support of agreed-upon levels of enrollment The Demographic Research Unit of the State Department of Finance estimates that, despite the recent net out-migration of Californians from the State, California's population will grow at an average rate of 2.2 percent over the next 50 years -- meaning that the State's population would double to over 63 million between the year 1990 and 2040 Over the next two decades, much of this increase will occur among young adults of traditional college age, as the children of the post-Second World War baby boomers become what Clark Kerr has called "Tidal Wave II "

Nearly four years ago, the Commission warned that, based on Department of Finance projections, some 600,000 more students would seek access to the California Community Colleges in 2005 than in 1990, 134,000 more would be eligible for admission to the California State University, and 64,000 more would be eligible for the University of California This past year, the Commission warned that, based on improvements in the eligibility rates of 1990 high school graduates for the State University and the University, even larger numbers of fully eligible students would seek access to the state's public universities than projected by the Department of Finance

Recently, however, the Department of Finance has revised downward its estimates of future enrollments, based on enrollment declines in the last three years -- some 30,000 full-time-equivalent students (or between 42,000 and 45,000 individual students) over the past two years at the State University, and more than 100,000 at the California Community Colleges If these declines were to continue unabated, California's opportunity to invest in and subsequently benefit from the potential productivity of its citizenry will be lost, perhaps permanently Some of these enrollment declines may have stemmed from increased systemwide fees and publicity about reduced course offerings Some may well have been the intended result of State policy directing public institutions to charge "duplicate degree" tuition that was mentioned above on page 6 Yet information is insufficient to determine the actual impact of these and other factors and to determine if this impact is only temporary, with enrollments likely to rebound to their previously expected

levels in several more years. This lack of information is a critical weakness in the State's current postsecondary planning, since the State may mistakenly decide to fund future college and university enrollments and capital construction at an artificially low level, based on temporary enrollment declines. This lack of information also hampers the Commission's efforts to offer sound advice on postsecondary education funding priorities.

As a result, the Commission staff will undertake a two-pronged effort to improve enrollment policy and planning:

- 1 *It will work with the Governor's Office, the Legislature, and representatives of the postsecondary education community to develop an explicit policy about the number and proportion of Californians that the State should enroll annually in its colleges and universities and then develop appropriate strategies for adequately financing that level of enrollment in postsecondary education, whether in public, independent, or proprietary institutions.*
- 2 *It will work with representatives of the postsecondary education community, students, the Legislature, and the Governor's office to enact legislation that will establish a State-level student information system to provide the information needed to determine who is and who is not enrolling in the State's colleges and universities and the actual progress of students through their postsecondary educational programs.*

4. Monitoring institutional performance and student achievement

In 1991, the Legislature adopted Assembly Bill 1808 (Hayden; Chapter 741, Statutes of 1991, adding Section 1, Chapter 4.5, to Part 65 of the Education Code) which, among other things, directed the Commission to develop an annual report on the performance of higher education institutions in a variety of areas. By this statute, the Legislature sought to require that a common set of information on postsecondary institutions be made broadly available to assist policy makers, students, and parents in making informed decisions about institutional performance and choice of college. At the same time, the federal government enacted the "Student Right To Know Act" that requires postsecondary education institutions to report information on such specified topics as student retention rates, degree completion rates, and the amount and type of crime occurring on campus. Since then, the deepening fiscal problems of the State have raised questions about how effectively and prudently public colleges and universities use State resources to accomplish their assigned missions.

The Commission has sought to provide at least some of this information ever since its first year of operation in 1974-75, when its Ad Hoc Committee to Evaluate the Effectiveness of Postsecondary Education proposed a three-part approach to institutional assessment:

- 1 Annual monitoring of the condition of California postsecondary education, using current, objective data from a State-level information system;
- 2 Periodic monitoring (such as every five years) of selected aspects of postsec-

ondary education not in the State-level information system or not requiring annual monitoring, and

3. In-depth evaluative studies in areas where monitoring reveals problems that merit data collection and analysis beyond the capabilities of the State-level information system

The Commission is now following up that early work by conferring with representatives from postsecondary education to determine which data should be used to report on institutional performance and the frequency with which these data should be collected. Already, two conclusions are evident:

1. The Commission will need to expand its information system or have access to a comprehensive State-level data base that provides academic information at the level of individual students, thereby permitting the examination of actual student progress through postsecondary education institutions, and
2. The procedures of collecting data for the annual performance reports should seek to promote intersegmental sharing of data and minimize unnecessary expenditures and detrimental impact on institutions.

The Commission does not anticipate that additional legislation will be required to fulfill its responsibilities under AB 1808, but to ensure a State-level information system adequate to assess the productivity and performance of postsecondary education, *Commission staff will work closely with the Legislature, the Governor, representatives of the postsecondary education community, and students to develop consensus on strategies and techniques for implementing that system.*

5. Implementing recent changes to federal financial aid programs

In July 1992, then President Bush signed legislation reauthorizing the federal Higher Education Act of 1965 that changed federally funded student financial aid programs in several significant ways. One major change expands eligibility for financial aid to a large number of students -- many of whom come from traditionally middle-class families and constitute a "newly needy" group of students who will be eligible to seek financial assistance. Unfortunately, however, the overall amount of federal money available for student financial aid has not changed. Thus, to the extent that this newly needy group of students receives financial assistance, it will come at the expense of those students who would traditionally have been eligible prior to the reauthorization.

Eligibility for the State's financial aid program is based, in part, upon federal policy concerning eligibility. Consequently, recent changes in federal methodology for determining eligibility for federal financial aid may also affect eligibility for State-funded aid and may warrant careful consideration to assure that State priorities are not circumvented by these changes.

Several major changes in the federal student loan programs were made through the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act and stemmed from the Clinton Administration's effort to achieve cost efficiencies in the student loan programs. One

change is the establishment of a new federal direct Student Loan program that is supported through federal, rather than private, capital and that will not require the involvement of state guarantee agencies such as the California Student Loan Commission. In addition, the Budget Reconciliation Act includes a section on risk sharing between federal and state governments that calls for states whose students participate in any federal loan program to share a proportion of the liability for loan defaults at institutions with student loan default rates of 20 percent or more -- a requirement that could result in a significant liability to the State. *Thus, the Commission staff will work with the Legislature and Governor's office to develop legislation that will establish a fund -- or some other alternative state policy -- to mitigate the potential financial liability of the State from loan defaults by students attending postsecondary institutions operating within state boundaries.*

**6. Advising the
new Constitution
Revision
Commission**

The legislation and budget issues that will be debated by the Governor and the Legislature during the next legislative session will largely be decided by whether the 1994-95 State Budget can address the severe fiscal problems caused by the continuing weaknesses in the State's economy and in the State's existing tax and expenditure structures. The creation of the new Constitution Revision Commission, which will examine possible reforms in these revenue and expenditure policies, is a harbinger of hope for resolving these weaknesses. *The Postsecondary Education Commission's staff will seek to advise the Postsecondary Education Commission about how it can encourage the work of the new Constitution Revision Commission toward that end.*

Summary

California higher education is wrestling with the dilemma that the State's fiscal crisis has created -- how to maintain the principles outlined in the State's Master Plan for Higher Education -- student access to, quality in, and choice among California's colleges and universities -- despite budget restrictions that are anticipated to continue into the near future. These budget restrictions are part of a larger disjuncture between existing State resources and the funds needed to meet the requirements of the needs of the State's growing population. In recent years, State revenues have declined at a rate almost double the rate of population growth.

CALIFORNIA POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION

THE California Postsecondary Education Commission is a citizen board established in 1974 by the Legislature and Governor to coordinate the efforts of California's colleges and universities and to provide independent, non-partisan policy analysis and recommendations to the Governor and Legislature

Members of the Commission

The Commission consists of 17 members. Nine represent the general public, with three each appointed for six-year terms by the Governor, the Senate Rules Committee, and the Speaker of the Assembly. Six others represent the major segments of postsecondary education in California. Two student members are appointed by the Governor.

As of October 1994, the Commissioners representing the general public are

Henry Der, San Francisco, *Chair*
C. Thomas Dean, Long Beach, *Vice Chair*
Elaine Alquist, Santa Clara
Mim Andelson, Los Angeles
Jeffrey I. Marston, San Diego
Guillermo Rodriguez, Jr., San Francisco
Melinda G. Wilson, Torrance
Linda J. Wong, Los Angeles
Ellen F. Wright, Saratoga

Representatives of the segments are

Roy T. Brophy, Fair Oaks, appointed by the Regents of the University of California,
Yvonne W. Larsen, San Diego, appointed by the California State Board of Education,
Alice Petrossian, Glendale, appointed by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges,
Ted J. Saenger, San Francisco, appointed by the Trustees of the California State University,
Kyhle Smeby, Pasadena, appointed by the Governor to represent California's independent colleges and universities, and
Jaye L. Hunter, Long Beach, appointed by the Council for Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education

The two student representatives are
Stephen Leshner, Meadow Vista
Beverly A. Sandeen, Costa Mesa

Functions of the Commission

The Commission is charged by the Legislature and Governor to "assure the effective utilization of public postsecondary education resources, thereby eliminating waste and unnecessary duplication, and to promote diversity, innovation, and responsiveness to student and societal needs."

To this end, the Commission conducts independent reviews of matters affecting the 2,600 institutions of postsecondary education in California, including community colleges, four-year colleges, universities, and professional and occupational schools.

As an advisory body to the Legislature and Governor, the Commission does not govern or administer any institutions, nor does it approve, authorize, or accredit any of them. Instead, it performs its specific duties of planning, evaluation, and coordination by cooperating with other State agencies and non-governmental groups that perform those other governing, administrative, and assessment functions.

Operation of the Commission

The Commission holds regular meetings throughout the year at which it debates and takes action on staff studies and takes positions on proposed legislation affecting education beyond the high school in California. By law, its meetings are open to the public. Requests to speak at a meeting may be made by writing the Commission in advance or by submitting a request before the start of the meeting.

The Commission's day-to-day work is carried out by its staff in Sacramento, under the guidance of its executive director, Warren Halsey Fox, Ph.D., who is appointed by the Commission.

Further information about the Commission and its publications may be obtained from the Commission offices at 1303 J Street, Suite 500, Sacramento, California 95814-2938, telephone (916) 445-7933.

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Commission Report 94-1



ONE of a series of reports published by the California Postsecondary Education Commission as part of its planning and coordinating responsibilities. Single copies may be obtained without charge from the Commission at 1303 J Street, Suite 500, Sacramento, California 95814-2938. Recent reports include

- 93-13 *Major Gains and Losses, 1986-87 to 1991-92 A Report on Shifts in the Popularity of Various Academic Disciplines as Fields of Study at California's Public Universities* (June 1993)
- 93-14 *Fiscal Profiles, 1993 The Third in a Series of Factbooks About the Financing of California Higher Education* (July 1993)
- 93-15 *Student and Staff Satisfaction with Programs for Students with Disabilities Comments by the California Postsecondary Education Commission on Reports Prepared by California's Public Systems of Higher Education in Response to Assembly Bill 746 (Chapter 829, Statutes of 1987)* (September 1993)
- 93-16 *Proposed Construction of the Madera County Educational Center in the State Center Community College District A Report to the Governor and Legislature in Response to a Request from the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges* (September 1993)
- 93-17 *Faculty Salaries in California's Community Colleges, 1992-93 A Report to the Legislature and the Governor in Response to Supplemental Report Language for the 1979 Budget Act* (September 1993)
- 93-18 *Appropriations in the 1993-94 State Budget for Higher Education A Staff Report to the California Postsecondary Education Commission* (September 1993)
- 93-19 *Commission Activities and Concerns of the Past Decade A Retrospective of Issues Confronting California Higher Education Between 1983 and 1993* (September 1993)
- 93-20 *Library and Information Services Education in California A Report to the Intersegmental Program Review Council from the Staff of the California Postsecondary Education Commission* (October 1993)
- 93-21 *Who Will Take Responsibility for the Future of California Higher Education? A Statement by Clark Kerr to the California Postsecondary Education Commission, October 25, 1993* (October 1993)
- 93-22 *Creating a Campus for the Twenty-First Century ♦ The California State University and Fort Ord* (October 1993)
- 93-23 *Restabilizing Higher Education Moderating the Impact on California's College Students and the State's Future from Cutting State Support for Higher Education by \$1.4 Billion Over the Past Three Years Report of the Executive Director of the California Postsecondary Education Commission, December 1993* (December 1993)
- 93-24 *The State of the State's Educational Enterprise An Overview of California's Diverse Student Population* (December 1993)
- 94-1 *Legislative and State Budget Priorities of the Commission, 1994 A Report of the California Postsecondary Education Commission* (January 1994)